

COMPOUNDS AND METHODS FOR CANCER THERAPYAbstract of the Disclosure

Methods for using modulating agents to enhance or inhibit occludin-mediated cell adhesion in a variety of *in vivo* and *in vitro* contexts are provided. Within certain embodiments, the modulating agents may be used for cancer therapy or to increase immune cell infiltration into tumors. The modulating agents comprise at least one occludin cell adhesion recognition sequence or an antibody or fragment thereof that specifically binds the occludin cell adhesion recognition sequence. Modulating agents may additionally comprise one or more cell adhesion recognition sequences recognized by other adhesion molecules. Such modulating agents may, but need not, be linked to a targeting agent, drug and/or support material.